

# Severe threats

2017

## **Terrorism suspect arrested in Muslim Colony, Rabwah Major attack averted**

*Rabwah:* The daily Din, Lahore of March 6, 2017 published the following report:

**“CTD action: Chenab Nagar spared extensive destruction. Terrorist arrested.**

**Plenty of explosive material recovered from Amir Niazi, the accused who was taken away to an unknown location.**

**Chenab Nagar (Correspondent):** CTD arrested a man in possession of large quantity of explosives. As per details, CTD District Chiniot arrested a man near Chenab Park in Muslim Colony. He was in possession of ½ kilo explosives, liquid material, four non-electric detonators and eight safety fuses, all this in a computer box. As per sources, the 35-years old man was recognized as Amir Khan Niazi, resident of Mianwali. Security agents shifted him to an unknown location for further investigation. According to the Bomb Squad, this timely action has saved Chenab Nagar from a catastrophe. We are informed that all the recovered stuff was meant for a major terrorist attempt.”

We, in the past, have repeatedly hinted in various reports a liaison between the Khatme Nabuwat leadership and extremism/terrorism. The evidence is known to state agencies; however media report of smoking-gun evidence has come out with this arrest.

This news was reported by vernacular newspapers; however, most of them added opinion to the facts, in an effort to distance the religious leadership, resident at Muslim Colony, from the accused. Some reported that the accused was arrested from a hotel in the Colony. In fact, there is no hotel in the Muslim Colony; there is only a PTDC restaurant. Others reported that the accused’s arrest from the Muslim Colony means that the mosque and seminary in the Colony were his targets. That is ridiculous. Surely, the investigating agencies are better informed of the hideous plan of the terrorist and his felicitators and sponsors.

## **Trouble for Ahmadis in Quetta**

*Quetta; April 2017:* Malik Farhan Ahmad Zafar and his family faced hostility and problems at the hands of a former neighbour. He made a fake page on Facebook with the name, “Rameen Malik and placed Mr. Zafar and his brothers’ photos on the Facebook along with the note, “These people are converting credulous Sunni brothers to Qadianiat deceitfully. Beware of them. They are blasphemers.”

Mr. Zafar was abroad while his two brothers live in Dulmial, District Chakwal, Punjab and two others were in Quetta. They have been advised to exercise caution. A complaint was lodged with the Cyber Crime Office in Quetta as also with the website on cyber crime.

### **Severe hostility in Nankana Sahib**

*Nankana; September 2017:* Anti-Ahmadiyya agitation has escalated after the murder here of an Ahmadi, Mr. Saleem Lateef earlier this year.

Mr. Mubashir Ahmad of Shadbagh Colony was repeatedly harassed by a local. On September 22, Mr. Ahmad was outside his child's school to bring him back when an unknown man approached him and told him to stay away or end up dead. At another occasion the same man came to the stationary shop where Mr. Ahmad was buying some stationary items along with his wife for his children. He forbade the shopkeeper to sell them anything as they were Mirzais (Ahmadis), and he threatened again to kill Mr. Ahmad. At another occasion Mrs. Ahmad went to a fruit shop, where the shopkeeper asked her whether she was Ahmadi? She nodded. The shopkeeper took back his fruits, and used foul language.

Mr. Mahmood, another Ahmadi from the same locality is also facing severe hostility. He is suffering a total social boycott in his neighborhood. He had to shift his children to several schools due to faith-based hostility in schools. Once his son Usama Ahmad was returning home after evening prayers when some youths manhandled him, and nobody nearby came to his rescue. Mr. Mahmood's daughter died sometime back, and was buried in the common cemetery. Opponents exhumed her body and the bereaved father had to bury her in his own farm.

### **Hostile visit in Mughalpura, Lahore**

*Sahwari, Mughalpura, Lahore; September 4, 2017:* Mr. Ijaz Ahmad is an Ahmadi; his neighbor Mr. Sajjad Hussain put up a banner on the outer wall of Mr. Ahmad's house. The banner conveyed, "Get a coffin for free". A group noticed the banner and objected: "Who has put up this banner on the wall of a *Mirzai's* house? They are infidels and irrelevant to coffins for Muslims?" They were informed that it was put up by Mr. Hussain who is the neighbor of Mr. Ahmad. "Convey to Mr. Hussain to remove it from here", they warned.

In the evening a dozen people accompanied by the local mulla turned up at the spot. They were harsh with Mr. Hussain and told him to take the banner off. They also threatened to square up with *Mirzais* on September 8, the day after the Khatme Nabuwat Day.

Mr. Hussain took the banner off.

The local mulla uses foul language against Mr. Ahmad in Friday sermons and provokes the worshipers against him. Mr. Ahmad has been advised to take precautionary measures.

### **Harassment of Ahmadis in a provincial capital**

*Lahore, December, 2017:* Following three incidents were reported from Baghbanpura area.

1. Mr. Nisar Ahmad accompanied by his daughter was on his way to the local bazaar, when a non-Ahmadi friend met him and informed him that some mullas had gathered at some distance ahead; they talked of a house of a *Mirzai* (Ahmadi) here and expressed hostile intentions. Mr. Nisar returned to his house for security concern and postponed his shopping.  
Earlier he owned a shop in this bazaar. Opponents frequently raised anti-Ahmadiyya slogans near his shop. As a result, he had to give up that shop.
2. Mr. Fahim Ahmad owns 'Nisar Studio' in Shalamar Chowk. One day he went to his shop and saw approximately a hundred men gathered there. They carried Khatme Nabuwwat posters, and raised anti-Ahmadiyya slogans.
3. Mr. Mubashir Ahmad Tanvir is a resident of Sahwari. One evening, while sitting with his family in the lawn, he heard gun-fire. They hurried inside. After some time he went to the roof where he saw a number of empty bullet shells.  
It seems that this prank was done by his neighbour's spoilt son who had fired these bullets. For what reason, we are not sure.

### **Communal tension in District Peshawar**

*Bazid Khel, District Peshawar; May 2017:* Mullas and vigilantes are bent upon disturbing communal peace of this small town where three Ahmadi families reside, while two others live on its outskirts. The former demanded that Ahmadis leave the town.

On May 13 a boy was shouting 'Death to Qadianis' in a street. An elderly Ahmadi heard this and beat him up. This precipitated an ugly reaction. The police intervened, took away both the parties to the police station and arranged reconciliation.

The next day mullas in surrounding villages came to know of the incident, and they decided to reactivate the unrest. They assembled an angry procession and proceeded to knock at the door of another Ahmadi, Mr. Rafiq Ahmad. Mr. Ahmad got frightened, took out his gun and fired in the air. As a result, the police took him and his son in custody and drove them to the police station.

The next day the police addressed the two parties. The anti-Ahmadi elements demanded that Ahmadis be expelled from the town. The police explained that they did not have the authority to impose such a penalty. So the meeting remained inconclusive.

Mullas were bent upon agitation. They organized an End of Prophethood rally on May 16. Foreseeing the likelihood of harm, Ahmadis shifted their families from the town for the time being.

### **Harassment through blasphemy accusation**

*Hattar, District Hazara; November 2017:* An Ahmadi boy, Aarsal Ahmad S/O Mr. Tasawwar Ahmad felt some nail pinching in his shoe. He put a piece of paper in it as remedy and went to a cobbler. When the cobbler took out the paper, he found the name of Allah written on it. Aarsal had not done that intentionally. Another boy, present there, took the paper and gave it to the local

mulla. He and a few others created hue and cry over it. Thereafter a few men came to the house of Arsal Ahmad and inquired from his father. “Arsal is a child, he did not do it intentionally, however we seek pardon over it,” said Mr. Qadeer, an Ahmadi neighbor of Mr. Ahmad, to the visitors. This apparently settled the issue.

After a few days Mr. Tasawwar Ahmad received threatening letter from the Khatme Nabuwwat organization; it conveyed:

“Anti-Ahmadiyya ordinance has to be implemented. You have blasphemed against the Holy Prophet (PBUH). We are talking over this issue. A police case will be registered against you by tomorrow. You have undertaken terrorism. Meetings are held in your house and in the house of Chaudhry Shakeel and Bajwa. Your children will be burnt after one week. Your house will be burnt as well. Leave this area. Action plan is being prepared in Haripur against you. We'll not leave you alone; action will be taken.”

### **Maulvi Fazl ur Rahman (JUI) threatens death**

*Swat; October 8, 2017:* The following was reported by The Express Tribune (extracts):

**Khatm-e-Nabuwwat oath: Fazl claims credit for defending religious law**

[Tribune.com.pk/story/1526090/whoever-tries-change-khatm-e-nabuwwat-law-dead-man-warns-fazl/on/10/8/2017](http://Tribune.com.pk/story/1526090/whoever-tries-change-khatm-e-nabuwwat-law-dead-man-warns-fazl/on/10/8/2017)

SWAT: Jamiat Ulama-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman warned on Sunday that anyone who tried to change the Khatme Nabuwwat law would be inviting his own death.

Addressing a JUI-F rally in Swat, he congratulated the nation for ‘foiling a conspiracy’ to mould the law in Parliament, while referring to the recently amended The Election (Amendment) Act 2017, which sparked a controversy “No one can touch the Khatm-e-Nabuwwat and Khatm-e-Resalat of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and if anyone tries he would be inviting his own death” Rehman said.

“Islam is being attacked. Our enemy is so weak and coward that he attacks us unawares. You saw our enemy tried to secretly attack Khatm-e-Nabuwwat in Parliament but our party was there. We resisted and within 24 hours what damage had been caused was addressed and compensated for”, he said amid slogans by party activists.

Our friends ask how it happened. You should be thankful that the conspiracy was foiled, he said, adding that no one had any information that the bill which had been agreed upon in certain shape had been changed later.

**Note:** Rehman did not tell his audience that his party members were part of the parliamentary Sub-Committee that prepared the final draft of the Election Bill 2017 before it was sent to the Senate.

### **A liberal intellectual under threat of extremist mullas**

*Lahore; January 2017:* Shan Taseer decided to send a message of sympathy as support on social media to Christian Aasia Bibi, Nabil Masih and others who are targeted under the blasphemy law. This disturbed the mullas greatly and they came out in a big way against this good gesture.

Tahrik Ya Rasool Ullah of Pir Afzal Qadri took the lead in the hostile protest. This is the same party that was in the forefront in the attack on the Ahmadiyya mosque in Dulmial. Qadri gave the fatwa that Taseer was cursed (*Maloon*) and *Wajib-ul-Qatl*. This party took out a hostile rally on this issue on January 1, 2017 in Mughalpura. They demanded that a police case be registered against Taseer.

The participants of the procession abused not only Mr. Taseer, but also the police and the government. They declared: “We’ll sacrifice our lives, but not spare the blasphemer. The government is pro-Qadianis. We’ll kill the blasphemers; they are *Wajib-ul-Qatl*.”

The authorities decided to let the mullas do what they liked, so as to let the event pass.